

Official Newsletter of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma

Times ABSENTEE SHAWNEE *News*

Li-Si-Wi-Nwi- "Among the Shawnee"



w w w . a s t r i b e . c o m

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



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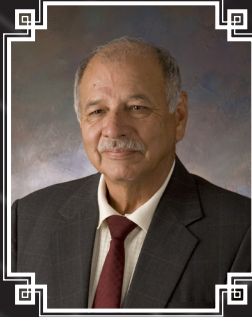
and a few more...

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2009
10:00 A.M.
LITTLE AXE RESOURCE CENTER

Executive Committee



George Blanchard
Governor



Dan Little Axe Sr.
Lt. Governor



Alecia Onzawah
Representative



Michelle Lopez
Secretary



Anita Chisholm
Treasurer

Governor's Report

Hello fellow Tribal Members.

I would like to start this month with our plan to energize and overhaul our way of doing business. As some of you have probably heard, we are entering into an agreement with the Chickasaw Nation to evaluate, and submit to us recommendations on some of our business practices. This is in no way an agreement for the Chickasaw Nation to come in and run our businesses. They are submitting recommendations to us based on their proven and profitable business practices. We as a Tribe can then use as we see fit, the recommendations we feel are appropriate for us as a Tribe, and not use the recommendations we feel are not suitable. We feel this is a necessary step in the advancement of our Tribe. New ideas are vital to the growth of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, no matter where they come from. If this is not the case, why are we revamping our constitution? Everything on earth changes with time. Why should we as a Tribe be left behind as things change? We feel that we will get some good ideas, and some not so good ideas from this agreement. With these good and not so good ideas, we as a Tribe will then make up our own minds what is best for the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

My theory is this: IN ORDER TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE, YOU MUST BE SUBJECTED TO KNOWLEDGE.

The office of Self Governance, under Sheila Harjo and Clarice Murdock had a busy month of Sept. having negotiated the Annual Funding Agreement with the Secretary of the Interior for the calendar year of 2010. The agreement includes an increase over the funding for 2009. Sheila and Clarice have jumped in on several projects that Sheila will address at the General Council. Good job Sheila and Clarice.

The Executive Committee has met several times re-

garding the present Organizational Chart. We are making progress on this, and hope to get some good ideas from the evaluation we receive from the Chickasaw evaluation. It's not an overnight fix, but we're working on it in positive manner.

I'm going to end here in order to save something for the General Council. The General Council is going to be held at the Resource Center at Little Axe on Oct. 17th. And I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

Ne-yi-wa

George Blanchard,
Governor

Secretary's Report-September 2009

Hello everyone.

I would like to give you an update of the programs I oversee as the Secretary of the tribe.

Clothing has been very busy with reloading of the Visa cards for the new school year. We have used \$110,000.00 for clothing this year so far. We will be transferring \$9000 more to finish out the year. So if you haven't sent in your application please do so soon. There is a few things we would like to remind tribal members. The Visa cards are good for five years from the date you receive them. Do not throw them away. This will cut down on the time for reloading you card. We still need the required clothing application, submit it and then we email the bank to download your visa card. Please read the insert you receive with your card. This is a program that is available from January through December. If you should have any questions please call Wynona Coon at Ext: 154

Burial program has made some changes and now we include the cost of tobacco in the four thousand dollar allotment for burial. If you ask for tobacco we will deduct the cost of it from your allotment along with the Two hundred for food. If you do not wish to use

the food voucher or tobacco voucher then the whole four thousand will go towards the funeral expenses. I received a call about the tobacco use and I would like to explain this a little further. Tribal members often ask for tobacco if they are performing a traditional service and we were donating this item in the beginning but the tribal store was taking a big loss for this and so we had to start paying for this so we decided to start deducting this from the burial allotment of \$4000. This will be a deduction of \$50.00 dollars from the burial if requested. You will still be able to request the food voucher of \$200 so that would leave \$3750.00 for funeral services. You do not have to request any of this and you would have a total of \$4000 for funeral services. If you should have any questions on the Burial policy please call my office.

Maintenance has been working on setting up the last few trailers and then will be stripping the Tecumseh Square. We will be salvaging any thing that is salvageable. Im not sure what we will be doing with the items as of yet. Maybe a auction or maybe hang on to them to use on other buildings that might need some repairs. I'm not sure were the grant is at this time. We haven't heard anything in a couple of weeks. Kenny will update us when he receives the money. We had just renovated a space in the Square and was taking donations so we could open when this decision came about. I will continue to seek out a place to open the resell shop and will keep you updated on this issue. I am still receiving donations at the complex for the resell shop. Donations include clothing and other items that could be resold to the public and in turn the proceeds would come back to the general fund to help programs with shortfalls. If you would like to donate items please call the my office.

By the time you read this newsletter I would have attended a Tribal Self Governance Strategy Meeting in Oregon. I will give you an update on this meeting in the next issue.

Our Media department is really stepping up to the plate in getting the Newsletters out on time and if you should need any printing done we are now open for business to do out side printing. We will officially open to the public in October. I would like to thank each and everyone of my media staff for doing a great job. We have received several compliments on the new revised newsletters and if you should have any suggestions on what you would like to see in the newsletters please call and let us know.

The next thing I would like to talk to you about is an Enrollment issue that has been going on too long. Some past E.C. members just let it ride due to election time. This is a very important issue to me. Currently there are sixteen tribal members enrolled in our tribe that their blood quantum has been rolled up to meet the one quarter blood quantum to be enrolled in our tribe. I have discussed this several times with the past E.C. members and with the present members. During the time this was done are Secretary at the time had passed a resolution to calculate the blood quantum this way, however we are to go by how the

Department of Interior calculates blood quantum and so when the new Secretary came in he changed it back to the way it was supposed to be according to the Department of Interior by resolution. We have been following this resolution ever since and before the first resolution we were doing it this way there was just a couple of months in between these resolutions .So now we have these tribal members on the roll who would not be eligible to be enrolled in our tribe if this had not happen. I spoke to several different past Executive Committee members and One suggestion was to leave it alone. I guess out of sight out of mind thing. I can't let this fall to the waste side. Another suggestion was to make everyone born before the year 1954 a full blood and change the roll so these individuals would be able to be enrolled tribal members. That seems like a lot of work and man hours. We would have to redo the whole roll and do all new resolutions for the new blood for everyone on the roll. Another suggestion was to lower the blood quantum to one eight, we would only have to take new enrollees. Then one comment was to dis-enroll them and don't change a thing. We cant just accommodate these individuals buy changing the rolls. I submitted this to the Attorney Generals office and precede to dis-enroll these individuals, after we had received a letter back for Department of Interior telling us we have to go by their rules. We sent out letters and was in the process of setting up dates with the Executive Committee for hearings on these individuals when I met with the Executive committee and the majority wanted to do the first suggestion of changing to full bloods if you were born before 54. I thought about it and realized it would take a lot of work for this to happen. This is why I am bringing it to the people. What do you suggest? I would really appreciate your advice on the major issue. I will also be speaking at the General Council about this issue also.

Treasurer's Report-September 2009

Good news! The 08 audit is completed. If you would like an electronic copy or paper copy please contact our office. Thanks to the Finance staff and the auditors for a good job. We plan to have all our accounts update and will start the '09 audit shortly after the first of the new year. In the finance department two new positions will be hired in the near future. A budget analyst has been hired and there is an opening for an Assistant Controller. We'll be introducing those two new individuals to you as all hiring is completed.

In addition to attending all the EC meetings I've been attending meetings with Health Board, the TEC board, the Gaming Commission, the ASEDA Board, the All Nations board and all the joint venture meetings. Every time I spend time with these boards I feel I learn a lot and hopefully give help to each of the boards. I've also worked with the Elder's council in looking at their books. Briana from my office was able to do a spread sheet with their expenses which I believe was very helpful to them. Belinda Collins the controller and I meet with the Elder's officers and went over that information. I enjoyed talking with the elders and

made a mental note to myself to go to their meetings when I can. I attended the Veterans dinner on the 9 of the September. We had a great attendance and a great program. I didn't realize we had so many of our people who have been in the Armed Forces. We have a lot to be proud of in our Veterans. Hats off to them! I also attended the Constitutional Review Committee meeting on Saturday, September 12. That committee has many things for you the people to look at, study and give suggestions of certain questions we have for you. You should be receiving a handout with questions in the very near future. We'd like for you to study the questions and give us your response. We will be having a constitutional change in the next few years and we need your input.

Things we hope to get going again are the following activities: 1) work with the Self-Governance Department and start the "strategic planning process" for the Tribe again. 2) Work with the HR and get back to updating the administrative manual utilizing the expertise of employees, the AG and others. 3) Start the budget process for FY 2010, 4) Continue to look for new businesses for the tribe and develop more partnerships with other Tribes and other entities. The Governor and I will be visiting the Eastern Shawnees in hopes of developing a partnership with them. 4) Complete our work on the Chickasaw partnership, 5) complete our work on developing an organizational chart that works for the tribe and the EC. 6) Continue to develop a team approach to all our activities within our tribe. We can't do anything alone we need partnerships and sharing of expertise.

As the fall approaches I hope each and every one of you start thinking about the election of new officers coming next year. Think about the type of leaders you want in these important positions. We need experienced educated people who can work together as a team. We need people who know how to manage people and know how to delegate duties in a proper way. We need leaders who know how to act and be professional in all matters. We need leaders who can give respect and honor to all and know how to receive respect from others. Think about and start encouraging tribal people who fit these qualities now. Elect only those people who have the best intentions for the people. We have many outstanding Tribal people who have these qualities. Start checking around and asking them to run for office.

Our tribe is a multi-million dollar business. We need to run the Tribe as a business with rules and regulations that we follow. We must keep all our administrative policies and procedures up to date in order to do just that. Yes because we are a tribe and a Self-governance one at that we do need to utilize where appropriate the language and culture in our tribal business. For example in the new Health Corporation we will be setting up as a result of the joint venture the name for that corporation will be call the "Li-Si-Wi-Nwi Health Board Corporation." I think that is a great name. The new Day Care will have similar Shawnee phrases on their building. (I might add compliments of the two fluent speakers on the EC committee, the Governor and

the Lt. Governor.)

I hope each of you is having a great Fall. This is my favorite time of year. I always love the cool weather the beautiful scenery and the beautiful sunsets. Only Oklahoma can give us that.

Constitution Revision Committee

The Constitution Revision Committee is continuing to work on the revisions including a three branch government which includes creating a Legislative body. We have drawn the lines for the four (4) districts and we are in the process of creating a map for everyone to view. These districts and the numbers of legislators assigned to each were based on the population of Tribal members through out the United States. We have worked our way to Article VI itution. We have a working draft that reflects all of the revisions we have done so far. This draft looks similar to the old draft in form but the content is somewhat different. We realize this is a working draft and there may be some other changes to what we have so far, but we do see progress being made.

As this process moves forward we would like to receive more input from the General Council. We will be sending out a copy of the draft that we have so far up to Article VI- Executive Branch. We are also including with these revisions a little questionnaire to gauge how you all feel about these revisions. For example: Under Article III- Membership, there is a revision to the blood quantum amount needed for enrollment. Please let us know if you agree or disagree and any comments you would like to make. You will be able to do this for every section and every Article we have so far. We would like to have these back by the General Council Meeting on October 17 so that we may report how the General Council feels about our revisions. **If you would, please return these questionnaires in a timely manner.** We will continue this process the further we move along with the revisions. Again, your input is very important to us. We want this Constitution to be for the benefit of everyone and not just a few.

We look forward to hearing what you have to say and any suggestions you may have.

The next meeting is October 10 at 9:00 AM at the Little Axe Resource Center. And November 21 at 9:00 AM at the Little Axe Resource Center. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me- Briana Ponkilla at bponkilla@astribe.com or (405)275-4030. Thank you!

CONSTITUTION REVISION MEETING

OCTOBER 10, 2009

And

November 21, 2009

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

LITTLE AXE RESOURCE CENTER

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

BRIANA PONKILLA (405) 275-4030 or
bponkilla@astribes.com



ALLNATIONS Bank

Business continues to be brisk at AllNations Bank. Loans and deposits are increasing. We see this as a sign that the Central Oklahoma market is still experiencing positive growth. The bank is continuing to reach out into its marketplace to provide financial support for small and medium business.

Deposit software in the form of a process called "Check 21" is being implemented to allow the bank to expand its deposit base. This installation should be completed by mid October.

Bob Billy
AllNations CEO



Representative's Report

Greetings Tribal Citizens:

I hope that this newsletter finds each of you doing well. First I want to offer you my apologies in the lack of article submittals over the past few newsletters. With a combination of an eventful change in our media department along with being engaged in various projects and issues, I had been unable to get a submittal included. This month I have decided

to include the report I submitted for the General Council report as it contains information that many of you may not get when unable to attend General Council.

Cultural Preservation

An ongoing initiative of the Office of Tribal Representative in terms of Cultural/Language Preservation is the development of an actual Cultural Center.

Currently, the two story brick building, also known as the former finance building, is being prepared to house our first Absentee Shawnee Cultural Center. The intent is to establish an official cultural center that will allow our tribe to actively pursue additional funding for library enhancement and museum grants. This will also permit more classroom space for various culturally rich instructional activities in the future.

Initially, it was estimated that the Cultural & Language Preservation/Tribal Historic Preservation Department would relocate into the former finance building in late April; however, a series of unforeseen events led to the necessity to do more renovations than originally planned due to a mold issue in the building. The project is nearly complete at this time.

In terms of language preservation, the Cultural Preservation staff has been asked to develop a language advisory council for purposes of contributing ideas and guidance in developing language tools to assist us in saving our language.

In April of this year, this office sponsored a dinner to honor the fluent speakers of our tribe in hopes of becoming more acquainted and to open lines of trust and communication with respect to those that have managed to maintain the Shawnee language.

Division of Human Services & Division of Education and Employment

Another initiative is the establishment of a Division of Human Services and a Division of Education and Employment. It is the desire of this office to bring together various programs such as Social Services, Promoting Safe & Stable Families, and ICW to form a Division of Human Services. Currently, the WIA Workforce Program is operated within the Social Service Program but would be more efficient if it were transferred to the Division of Education and Employment.

It is my hopes that these two Divisions will then be able to meet the needs of our citizens not only by assisting

with social service needs but also to strengthen our families by outlining case plans and a pipeline of services to help our citizens obtain the education and training necessary to become self sufficient similar to the following:

Applies for Social Service Assistance
➡ Receives assistance based on meeting income guidelines ➡ Referred to Division of Education & Employment ➡ Case Plan Developed for Education and/or Employment
➡ Client receives continuous career counseling ➡ Becomes better equipped with work skills necessary to provide for family.

In addition to transferring the WIA Workforce Program into the Division of Education and Employment, the TERO Office will also become a component of the Division of Education and Employment. TERO stands for Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance and was established this year for the first time. TERO is based on tribal law that allows us, as a sovereign nation, to enforce Indian Preference on tribal construction projects as well as implement a TERO fee, meaning that under the TERO ordinance, contractors are obligated to pay the AST TERO program a fee that is equal to two percent of the entire construction project. The fees collected will then be placed back into the TERO program under the Division of Education and Employment and used to leverage tuition assistance for vocational technical training and to provide support services for those participating in career development case plans.

Tribal Workplace Rights Laws

Another important component to TERO is a set of laws called the Tribal Workplace Protection Act which is a set of laws that protects the tribal employee from undue process and discrimination, holding

tribes accountable in the fair and equitable treatment of its employees. It is extremely important that tribes adopt such laws in order to not only practice fair employment practices but to also display accountability and fairness to the federal government. Adoption of such laws shows the federal government that tribes are willing to be responsible in the treatment of its employees while protecting the sovereign right to regulate employee issues at a tribal level.

In the near future, we will be contracting the National Council for Tribal Employment Rights to come to the Absentee Shawnee Tribe to consult with us on the adoption and implementation of these very important workplace laws. On July 27th – 29th, 2009, myself and Human Resource Director, Paula Green, attended the National TERO Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma in an attempt to learn more about these laws and how we can work together in bringing them to the tribe to improve the employer/employee relationship. Thus far, the Crow Nation of Montana are the only tribe that have adopted such laws.

I have contacted the Council for Tribal Employment Rights and have submitted a proposal request for their staff to bring Tribal Workplace Rights Act (TWPA) training to our Executive Committee and our managers so that we can enact such laws in a timely manner. I will keep our tribal citizens updated on this goal as it develops.

I should also mention that Treasurer Chisholm and I have been working with a committee of employees to re-develop our administrative manual. Of course the TWPA will be reflected in this manual as well.

Centralization

To date, my office has been working with the programs under my oversight to develop a the centralization

of vital program information such as copies of departmental grants, reporting schedules, reports, organizational charts, job descriptions, program requirements and specific funding source information. This will ensure that all critical information is available not only in that particular department but also in a central area. This will allow us to make certain that all reports are submitted to appropriate funding agencies in a timely manner so that our programs are in good standing. Also, in the event that any program director transfer, or depart employment, we will not be deficient of vital program information and a transition for incoming management will be a smooth one.

Tribal Youth Program

On January 26th-29th, 2009, I attended a mandatory strategic planning meeting in Albuquerque, NM along with Tresha Spoon and Andy Warrior as a part of our obligations as a grant recipient for our Tribal Youth Program funds from the Department of Juvenile Justice. The meeting was interesting as we were able to listen to the challenges and successes of other tribes and hopefully we can utilize some of the more successful programs within our own organization. I should also note that I am a member of the AST Youth Advisory Council which is also a requirement of the TYP Program and as a member I have committed myself to addressing the youth about leadership as the TYP program continues to develop.

Tecumseh Square

In January, the City of Tecumseh began to contact my office and the OEP office to express interest in speaking about ways that the AST tribe and City of Tecumseh could partner in terms of development. As a result of this, a meeting was scheduled with

the Mayor of Tecumseh and other key officials along with representatives from East Central University and Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech.

As has been stated for the past few years, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe has been working towards establishing a working relationship with ECU and this office intends to continue to partner with East Central University and now also with Gordon Cooper Vo-Tech to provide a satellite campus that will make access to higher learning and technical training easier for those in this area.

It has been decided that the shopping center portion of Tecumseh Square will be demolished with a portion of funding through the Indian Community Development Block Grant with plans to use future funding to rebuild, possibly a modern shopping center to compliment the satellite campus for ECU and Gordon Cooper. We have received support from the City of Tecumseh, ECU and Gordon Cooper. The City of Tecumseh particularly likes the emphasis on providing training.

I would also like to mention that the Absentee Shawnee Tribe recently established the Absentee Shawnee Training Institute (ASTI) as a non-profit training institute that will be able to provide environmental training to other tribes as we are one of only a few tribes with an established Brownfields Job Training Program. The Brownfields Training program trains Native Americans in the areas of hazardous materials clean up and through ASTI we may be able to provide this type of training to tribes nationwide.

Hazard Mitigation Plan

Recently our tribe passed a resolution that will allow us to pursue consultation and preparation of a tribal hazard mitigation plan. To date,

our tribe has not had such a plan in place.

This plan will benefit us in several ways. This past June, this tribe passed a resolution establishing a fire department. This resolution was a necessary first step so that we can include the resolution when seeking additional resources. The tribal hazard mitigation plan will now allow our tribe to seek funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security and Department of Public Safety.

Not only does the tribal hazard mitigation plan have the potential to provide additional funding for our fire department, but also has the potential to provide other resources in the development of Tecumseh Square when improving the property to protect against flooding.

Child Care

The new geothermal child care facility on the tribal campus is near completion and should be open by the time you receive this report. This child care facility will maintain the name "Building Blocks". The childcare program was recently moved under my supervision and will be placed under the Division of Education and Employment once the new organization structure is completed.

I have requested that the wording *'lifelong learning begins here'* appears on the signage for the new facility in both English and Shawnee. It is my hopes that our tribe adopts the motto and promotes lifelong learning from infancy to elder alike.

We have taken a turn in planning and development of our childcare program. There are future plans to build another child care facility in the Little Axe area , possibly over

the course of the next few years, as there are not adequate child care available to those in that area. With the construction of the AST Joint Venture Health Clinic, it is vital that we strategically develop childcare for that area as well.

It has been decided that the original Building Blocks facility now located in the Shawnee area will be closed due to the fact that it is not profitable due to the size of the facility. There are plans; however, to keep the property as it is and turn it into a Quality Assurance site that will be able to provide day care operations training to other tribes nationwide through distance learning. The grant that funded the original daycare facility provided limited technical assistance and lacked the training in actual operations. Now that we have established ourselves with the capabilities of undertaking a tribal childcare facility, we can now go forward with assisting other tribes in operations.

Cultural Preservation will be working closely with the childcare program to include culturally relevant information in lesson plans as well as language.

Issues affecting tribes

There are many issues that have ongoing potential to negatively affect tribes across this state and across the nation. It is crucial that tribal leadership continue to be conscientious and active in voicing their stands on these issues. Here are a few of those issues that we have been working on:

Healthcare

In January of 2009, I was fortunate enough to attend the NCAI legislative summit in D.C. with our former governor as well as the I.H.S. budget formulation meeting and a tribal leader's consultation with the Senate

Committee on Indian Affairs.

One of the more critical issues that were discussed on a national level was the issue of healthcare reform and the potential impact on Indian country. It appears that there are those in Washington who are looking to include Native American healthcare in the universal healthcare reform plan which is not acceptable as there is a distinct relationship and obligation to native people in terms of healthcare.

The other issue is that some tribes have used tribal revenue to leverage health care dollars due to a shortfall in federal funding received for their tribal citizens and as a result, are looking at penalties from the IRS.

I was also able to attend tribal consultation/listening meeting with the IRS in Tulsa on July 16th. I was disappointed to find that there were only two tribes that had actual leadership present, one being our tribe. I did emphasize to the IRS representatives that due to the fiduciary duty that the federal government has to Native Americans, that there is leadership here in Oklahoma that does request and support a provision for tribes in terms of exemption on taxation on health services provided for our tribal members. Tribes should not be penalized for providing for our people what should be provided for us in the first place.

Additional information: I am currently on travel attending the National Indian Health Board Consumer Conference in Washington D.C. from September 14th, 2009 to September 18th, 2009 along with Chris Walker and Keri Harjo. I am supplementing this article submission with information received as a result of this conference.

As many of you are aware, the biggest topic in recent news is

the matter of Healthcare Reform. While the intent of healthcare reform is to be able to bring affordable healthcare to all Americans, some of the concerns that are being discussed are the potential federal mandates that will require that all American citizens maintain health insurance or face fines in the form of tax penalties.

This morning, while addressing those attending the National Indian Health Board Consumer Conference, Ms. Kathleen Selebius, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services pointed out that new mandates will NOT apply to Native Americans.

Ms. Selebius also expressed shared concern with Indian healthcare officials and tribal leadership that while the mortality (death) rate for Native Americans is six times higher than the rest of America, this new presidential administration is committed to improving Indian health and for the first time ever, there has been an increase in the DHHS budget for I.H.S. funding in the amount of 454 million dollars which in effect is a 13% overall increase.

It is an exciting time for Native American, but parents, keep in mind that we need more of our young people to enter the health field so that the improvement of healthcare for our people will continue.

Water Rights

Another ongoing issue that continues to evolve as a state matter is the issue of water rights. On June 18th, I along with Secretary Lopez attended a tribal water rights meeting in Tulsa. The meeting was very informative. Fortunately another meeting was held recently, on August 17th in Law-

ton and Treasurer Chisholm, Self-Governance Director Sheila Harjo, Attorney General Charles Tripp and I were able to attend.

Oklahoma has already been in the development stages of a state water plan. The development of these plans began several years ago and included guidance from attorneys and environmental specialists. So as not to be excluded, it is vital that tribes develop tribal water plans that outline water usage for industrial use, agriculture, ceremonial use, etc. so as not to lose the rights to use the water that flows through our lands. In the very near future, key people will be identified and directed to begin working on this important matter. In the new organizational structure you will see the formation of a Division of Environmental Management & Natural Resources and this will be one of the major projects of that division.

Land Into Trust

Carcieri Vs. Salazar: On February 24th, 2009, a ruling was made by the U.S. Supreme Court in what is known as the Carcieri vs. Salazar case. The Supreme Court had the task of determining how to interpret the definition of Indian in what is known as the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The act also known as the IRA defines Indian to include "all persons of Indian descent who are members of any federally recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction, and all persons who are descendants of such members who were, on June 1, 1934, residing within the present boundaries of any Indian reservation, and... all persons of one-half or more Indian blood."

This case involves the Narragansett tribe of Rhode Island. The Narragansett tribe was placed under formal guardianship of the Rhode Island colony in 1709 and then in 1937 was considered to be

under the jurisdiction of the New England states. It wasn't until 1983 that the Narragansette tribe finally received federal recognition upon which its land was taken into trust. After a land purchase in the 1990's, the Secretary of Interior placed the land purchased into trust. The state of Rhode Island appealed this decision to the federal courts and in this appeal, the U.S. Supreme Court determined that the word "now" in relation to the IRA restricted the term Indians to those recognized before 1934.

While this decision may not have an immediate effect on the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, the negative potential impacts to other tribes recognized after 1934 still exist. As a part of Indian Country, it is still crucial that Oklahoma tribes support the Narragansettes as it will take a congressional act to reverse this ludicrous decision that is based on the word "now". What effects one tribe always has the potential to impact other tribes across this nation.

More specifically related to our tribe is what we know as the Collier case which requires that the Citizen Potawatomi Nation grant permission for us, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, before placing land into trust. As the presidential administration has come into office, the new Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior, Larry Echohawk, has indicated a commitment to assist tribes into placing land into trust. With this in mind, our Attorney General's office has submitted a letter requesting review of our trust land situation.

On July 1st, 2009, I attended a one day Land into Trust Tribal Consultation meeting in Sacramento, California that was hosted by the Department of Interior. The meeting allowed tribal leadership to bring concerns and comments to the Secretary of DOI. Unfortunately, those

planning the meeting failed to conduct registration and so the meeting was grossly overbooked resulting in a room too small to accommodate the tribal leadership that had traveled from long distances only to have to stand in a hallway to try to listen to the discussion. The Delaware tribe and the Absentee Shawnee Tribe were the only Oklahoma tribes with representation at the meeting.

I would also like to mention that I am the Chairperson for the CTSA Board of Directors which oversees the operations of the Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area head start centers. Our tribe is a component of the CTSA Consortium and therefore it is mandatory that we have tribal representation on the CTSA Board of Directors. Governor Blanchard is also on the board along with representation from other tribes in this area and as we continue, I will be able to familiarize him more with our duties as CTSA board members. . These are some of the projects and issues that I have been working on along with other various Executive Committee members and staff. My hats off to them and I would like to say it is an honor to work with an outstanding group of people. There are more issues and projects that I will continue to report on in our tribal newsletter as we proceed.

Thank you.

Alecia Onzawah



FY-2008
YTD TAX COLLECTIONS
(thru 8/31/2009)

TAX CATEGORY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	% OF COLLECTIONS
Sales (6%)	\$13,683.19	\$13,201.74	\$6,070.96	\$9,073.01	\$3,992.80	\$9,207.56	\$7,314.45	\$7,538.50	\$70,182.21	5.86%
Gaming % of free cash	\$85,000.00	\$116,114.00	\$125,239.00	\$181,743.00	\$60,000.00	\$217,527.00	\$98,732.00	\$60,000.00	\$944,355.00	79.16%
Employee (1%)	\$13,066.41	\$8,309.81	\$7,358.43	\$7,538.09	\$7,456.64	\$9,511.98	\$7,810.92	\$10,532.94	\$71,585.22	6.00%
Severance (8%)	\$1,763.38	\$909.99	\$3,161.33	\$2,199.15	\$1,722.03	\$1,841.43	\$1,252.70	\$1,288.98	\$14,138.99	1.19%
Motor Vehicle	\$8,776.01	\$11,549.23	\$13,846.53	\$11,340.75	\$9,884.95	\$10,828.21	\$12,753.53	\$11,276.93	\$90,256.14	7.57%
TOTAL TAXES	\$122,288.99	\$160,684.77	\$166,878.26	\$211,884.00	\$83,658.42	\$248,818.18	\$127,883.80	\$80,787.36	\$1,180,617.68	
Miscellaneous	\$1,009.92	\$355.38	\$275.00	\$190.00	\$117.50	\$195.00	\$162.50	\$140.00	\$2,445.30	0.20%
TOTAL COLLECTIONS	\$123,298.91	\$161,040.15	\$167,153.26	\$212,074.00	\$83,775.92	\$249,013.18	\$128,046.30	\$80,927.36	\$1,183,062.98	
NOTE	Let's see April reflects a refund of \$1,763.38									

Office of Self Governance

Director: Sheila Little-Harjo

BIA Specialist: Clarice Murdock

The Office of Self Governance has been busy since last month when we were just established. One of our important projects was the negotiation of the Annual Funding Agreement for calendar year 2010 between the Absentee Shawnee Tribe and the United States of America through the Secretary of the Interior. This was negotiated on September 2, 2009. This agreement includes programs which are funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the benefits of the tribe. The funding agreement gives the tribe broad authority to consolidate and redesign the programs and to reallocate funding between programs without further approval from the Secretary unless other indicated in the agreement. The tribe agrees to assume responsibility for the implementation of the programs identified for which funds have been transferred to the tribe.

Programs included in this agreement are: Tribal Courts, Law Enforcement, Enrollment, Probates, Realty, Services to Children, elderly and families, Indian Child Welfare, Employment Assistance, Education, Indian Reservation Roads, Roads maintenance, and Administrative Services. The agreement includes a slight increase over the funding for 2009.

The Self Governance office attended the Self Governance Strategic Planning session for Self Governance Tribes held recently in Oregon. The purpose of this planning session was to review and update the goals issues and priorities identified in the 2009-2010 National Tribes Self Governance Strategic Plan and Nation Priorities for the Obama Administration and 111th Congress.

The office is also working on projects for the Buck Head Creek Bridge and parking lot for the new Day Care center at the Tribal Complex and we are also involved in working with the Joint Venture Project for the new Health Clinic. We are beginning to plan our budget for the calendar year 2010 and setting priorities that the Executive Committee is wanting. We will also begin working on a Tribal Strategic Management Plan and will be holding meetings for tribal input in the future.

We have also just begun working with Law Enforcement, EPA, and other various offices on a Hazardous Mitigation Plan that will enable the Tribe to work with FEMA on natural disasters as well as plan for the Tribe to have an effective plan on how to handle a disastrous situation should we be faced with one such as a tornado, flood, ice storm or fire. This plan will also enable the tribe to

apply for other funding opportunities.

Plans are also being made to attend the Indian Land Consolidation Symposium in Catoosa, Ok. This symposium will cover fee to trust, rights of way, easements, fair market valuation, taxation and other matters as well as water rights. This conference Theme: Restoration of Our Lands and Resources" will place special focus on options for native land restoration - bringing lands within native territories into tribal use, management and control. It will discuss how to develop land management codes and ordinances which promote land recovery/first right of purchase for Tribes and protection of water resources.

The Office of Self Governance is just beginning to establish priorities for the Tribe and will continue to update you on what is happening both within the office and within the Nation on these very important issues.

THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Sayings for the month:

1. What is your name?
na-he-wa ke-ta-se-fo?
2. How are you doing?
hi-ke ho-wa-se li-si-mi-mo?
3. Is everyone feeling OK?
hi-gi-ke-we-ya-fi ho-wa-se li-si-mi-mo?
4. Can you count?
hi-ta-pe ka-hi-ke-ti-fo?
5. How old are you?
Ka-fe-we ke-ta-te-fe-we-ki-to-we?
6. What are you doing?
Ne-he-wa ke-ta-se-li-we?
7. What've you been doing?
Ne-he-wa ke-ta-se-se-li-we
8. When will I see you again?
Ti-ne-wa li-qi no-ke ka-no-la
9. When will we see each other again?
Ti-ne-wa li-qi no-ke ka-no-te-pa
10. See you later.
Si-li-no-ke ka-no-la
11. You're looking good.
li-ko-qa ke-ho-wa-se ni-ko-fe
12. Where are you going?
Ti-ne-wa ke-si-hi?

These are the sayings for the month. To those who can understand them, please pass them along to your family members at every opportunity. In this way we pass on to our young ones the ways of the old ones.

George Blanchard
Fi-fe-yi-ke-se-mo

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Grilling with Ron

The Healthy Heart program sponsored a series called "Grilling with Ron." Ron McIntosh, Healthy Heart coordinator and dietician, developed this series to teach participants how to prepare tasty seasonal dishes, using affordable healthy alternatives. According to Ron, "Healthy dishes can have flavor and be tasty...believe or not."

In each cooking session, Ron stressed the importance of making better dietary choices and answered questions from participants regarding nutrition.

The series was held both in Little Axe and Shawnee. Despite the different locations, Mary Birdtail maintained perfect attendance at all sessions. As an incentive to her perfect attendance, Mary was awarded a George Foreman grill and a certificate for outstanding achievement.



Devon Energy Cruise

The Healthy Heart program sponsored an Oklahoma River Cruise. Participants were treated to a ferry service which spans a 7 mile section of the Oklahoma River. On board the ship, participants were treated to some fun educational activities about health.



FLU INFORMATION

The flu: What do I need to know?

The flu has arrived in full force in both the Little Axe and Shawnee clinics. We expect the cases to continue to rise into a full-blown epidemic. So what does this really mean for us?

First, it is important to realize that there is no cause for alarm. None of the flu strains we have seen this year are very dangerous for the vast majority of people. This said, it is important to be aware of what you should do while this epidemic continues. I hope to give important information as well as to clear up many misconceptions about the flu.

What is the difference between swine flu and regular flu?

Both types of flu are viruses from the influenza group. The seasonal flu (regular flu) occurs every year and consists of multiple various flu strains with slight differences. It causes flu-like symptoms and can range in severity from mild to life-threatening. The 2009 H1N1 flu (swine flu) is the same kind of flu but it is brand new. It has never been seen prior to this year. It is suspected to have come from an individual pig in Mexico and has now spread worldwide from Human to Human.

The symptoms of the two types of flu are very similar with some notable differences. Seasonal flu symptoms include fever, chills, runny nose, cough, muscle aches, headache, sore throat and malaise. Swine flu includes all these and may include vomiting and diarrhea. The seasonal flu usually affects everyone. The swine flu can also affect anyone but seems to cause serious illness in pregnant women, children and those with certain underlying medical conditions.

We have seen dozens of cases of confirmed flu in the clinics. Almost all of these have been 2009 H1N1 (swine flu).

So what do I need to do to prevent getting the flu?

Come to the clinics to get the seasonal flu shot. These are available now for anyone and are recommended for the following groups:

- Children aged 6 months until their 5th birthday,
- Pregnant women,
- People 50 years of age and older,
- People of any age with certain chronic health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease),
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities,
- Household contacts of person at high risk for complications from influenza,
- Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age, and
- Health care workers.

The swine flu shot will be available sometime in October. Anyone who wants can come get that shot when it is available but it is highly recommended to those who fit in one of the following categories:

- **Pregnant women** because they are at higher risk of complications and can potentially provide protection to infants who cannot be vaccinated;
- **Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age** because younger infants are at higher risk of influenza-related complications and cannot be vaccinated. Vaccination of those in close contact with infants younger than 6 months old might help protect infants by “cocooning” them from the virus;
- **Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel** because infections among healthcare workers have been reported and this can be a potential source of infection for vulnerable patients. Also, increased absenteeism in this population could reduce healthcare system capacity;

- **All people from 6 months through 24 years of age**
 - **Children from 6 months through 18 years of age** because cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza have been seen in children who are in close contact with each other in school and day care settings, which increases the likelihood of disease spread, and
 - **Young adults 19 through 24 years of age** because many cases of 2009 H1N1 influenza have been seen in these healthy young adults and they often live, work, and study in close proximity, and they are a frequently mobile population; and,
- **Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza.**

What do I do if I get the flu?

Most people who develop fever and any of the above flu-like symptoms should stay home, drink plenty of fluids and rest. Some people should come to the clinic for evaluation especially young children, older people, those with asthma, diabetes or other chronic immune compromising conditions.

Furthermore, in children, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish or gray skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

In adults, emergency warning signs that need urgent medical attention include:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
- Sudden dizziness
- Confusion
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough

I hope this answers many questions about the flu. If you understand this article, you know more about the flu than most people. If you have any questions, call one of the AST clinics. You can also check out the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

Nathan Boren, MD

THE MEDIA DEPARTMENT'S

INTERESTING

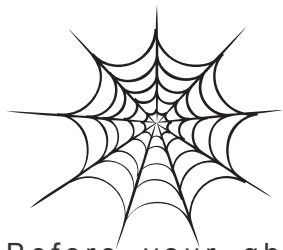
FACT...

What Does WD-40 Stand For?

Water Displacement, 40th attempt.

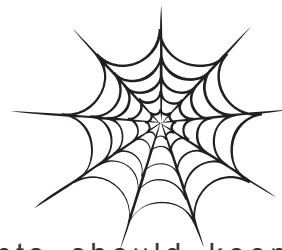
The chemist, Norm Larsen attempted to concoct a formula to prevent corrosion by displacing water.

Norm's persistence paid off when he perfected the formula on his 40th try. www.interestingfacts.org



SAFETY TIPS

ICW Department



Before your ghosts and goblins trick or treat this year, parents should keep in mind these safety tips to make sure the only howls are those of fun.

Here are some trick or treat safety tips for youngsters:

- ☐ **Have each child carry or wear something lit**, such as a flashlight, glow bracelet or necklace, or flashing attire for visibility. Light-up shoes are also practical and ever-so-noticeable on a dark Halloween night.
- ☐ **Adults should plan out a route in advance** and check it during the daylight for such obstacles as broken sidewalks (or no sidewalks), construction timber, or other obstacles. Trick or treat in familiar neighborhoods or areas.
- ☐ **Require well-fitting shoes** to be worn; preferably sneakers. While adorable in the store as a costume accessory, kids planning to go trick or treat should wear sturdy shoes and not the princess high-heel, too-large boots, or other types of shoes often shown with costumes. Save those types of shoes for costume parties and not when a child is going trick or treat. Their feet--and most likely you who may end up carrying either the shoes or the child--will be thankful.
- ☐ **Avoid costumes that drag on the ground.** While cute initially, costumes that drag can trip up little feet, get caught on bushes, and create a tussle that sometimes results in the child wanting to remove the costume. Remember, kids who trick or treat want to be costumed AND comfortable.
- ☐ With the thought of comfort, **pick costumes that are bathroom-friendly as well.** On this same subject, parents should pre-plan a bathroom stop along the way (a friends' house will do and is a good time for a water break as well), or at a public facility if driving.

- ❑ **Be sure a child's mask allows full visibility and breathing.** Spiderman masks, for example, sometimes only have small eye slits and nothing for the nose or mouth. Parents should try on masks for size and not hesitate to cut out larger openings for a trick or treater's comfort. If possible, find a mask that "breathes" and is easy to put on and off. The types of mask that easily can slide up on the head and then pulled down are best.
- ❑ **Trick or treaters should walk**, not run, and should never cut across lawns or driveways.
- ❑ **Only carry flexible props**, such as knives, swords, ninja items, etc., that can't cause injury if a kid accidentally falls. No play prop should resemble the real item; and consider leaving play weapons at home and not part of trick or treat night.
- ❑ **Only trick or treat at houses that are lit.** Residents who do not wish to be bothered by trick or treaters often leave off their lights as a sign.
- ❑ **Think "practical" over "cute" when picking a trick or treat goody bag or container.** Some of seemingly-fun ones sold in stores are heavy--before any treats are added; others are too long and will drag the ground or have sharp edges that could scrape against tender skin. One of the best and simplest suggestions is have kids utilize a backpack to keep their hands free except for perhaps a flashlight.
- ❑ **Keep track of time and don't trick or treat after 9 p.m.** (general recommendation). That allows ample time for children to trick or treat, and by then, the excitement of the evening and the candy/treats means little ghouls will be tired, anyhow.

The Media Department



Happy Birthday

Happy Belated Birthday Uncle George (September 28)
Love, Briana, Jack, and Natalie

**HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY
(SEPTEMBER 3RD)
TO MY CUZZO AMBER "AMBROSIA" BLANCHARD.
FROM HER CUZZO NATALIE PONKILLA!**

Happy Birthday Stevi
Love,
Grandma Joann
Grandpa Poncho

Happy 3rd Birthday to Silas Love your
cousins JD Goombi, Braylon Colbert, and
Aunt Natalie

Happy Birthday
Stevi Johnson
love,
Auntie Stef
Ty
Uncle Blaine

Happy Birthday to my mom Tara Battise on Oct. 30th. I
love you very, very much.
love,
Tessa

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KALEB AND TATUM HARJO
ON OCT. 21ST.
LOVE,
MOM, GRANDMA JO, ALL BROTHERS AND SISTERS,
TESSA & THE BATTISE FAMILY

Happy Birthday Tara!!!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Gina & Ray

Happy B-Day
October 19th
Justin Schulenberg
Love,
Mema & Papa

Happy Birthday
Noddie.
Love,
Mac, Sissy, & Bubba

Happy Birthday
October 3rd
Tina Schulenberg
Love,
Mom & Dad

Happy birthday
Randy C. Switch Jr. on October 11.
I love you, have a blessed day!
Love Big Sis,
Traci L. Switch

Happy Anniversary to Jack and Lance.
YA' MADE IT!!! LOL
Love Natalie

October 11th
Happy Birthday
Stevi Johnson
Love you,
Daddy & Sissy

Happy Birthday
October 5th
Laurie Dereessen
Love,
Mom & Dad

Happy B-Day
October 3rd
Rachel Whinery
Love,
Mema & Papa

Thank you!

THANK YOU!

This is to all of my great friends and relatives for their prayers, flowers, cards and other things that were sent during the service for my father "Lewis Blanchard". Again, I am saying "thank you" for all of you that helped conduct this service in the traditional way. This showed great respect for my father. It is gratifying to see so many friends and family who understand our traditional ways. I want you all to know that I am proud and honored to call you all friends and family. Thank you all.

George and Sue Blanchard,
Also Bev., Bob, and Tee

After an extended illness and hospital stay, well respected tribal elder Lewis Blanchard passed away on September 1, 2009. He will be dearly missed not only by his immediate family but also by other tribal members, relatives and the Little Axe community. Our family would like to send their sincere gratitude and appreciation to each and every person for your support, prayers and attendance during this time of sorrow. We would also like to thank you for your generosity in giving ample amounts of food, time, and assistance.

-Family of Lewis Blanchard

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Caregiver Support Program

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Caregiver Support Program will hold a meeting Thursday October 22, 2009 at 10:00 AM in the Community Health Department of building 17. If you are interested in applying to the program or have questions please feel free to join us. We will discuss program guidelines, eligibility requirements, information on other resources, and help with the application process if needed. Look forward to seeing you there!

*Nancy Carpenter
Caregiver Support Program Coordinator*

878-5850

Foster Parents Needed!!!

Can you open your home and heart for a foster child.? Foster parents provide a temporary, safe home for children in crisis. Foster parents are partners with child welfare workers, lawyers and judges. It is not for everyone but if you have it in your heart - we need you.

- Can you love and care for a child who comes from a difficult background?
- Can you help a child develop a sense of belonging?
- Are you secure in yourself & your parenting Skills?
- Can you maintain a positive attitude toward a child's parents?
- Can you love with all your heart & then let go?

FOSTER PARENTS PROVIDE A TEMPORARY, SAFE HOME FOR CHILDREN IN CRISIS. THEY ARE PARTNERS WITH WORKERS, LAWYERS, AND JUDGES. IT IS NOT FOR EVERYONE! CAN YOU OPEN YOUR HOME AND HEART FOR A FOSTER CHILD?

Many children need a loving home and a family to help them through a very tough time. Please think about it and talk with your family before you become a foster home. They all need safe, supportive environments!

If you find yourself and your family interested in Foster Care, please contact Melissa Lopez 405-275-4030 ext. 166.



While domestic violence is not confined by the calendar, October has been recognized nationally as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This is a time to unite as a community, to mourn the loss of victims of domestic violence, recognize the brave survivors, and celebrate the progress being made in condemning and ending domestic violence. National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is observed every October across the country. National, state, and community organizations for violence prevention and victim services, businesses, health care providers, and others mark the month with educational programs, recognition and memorial ceremonies, community outreach, and other efforts. Any violence taking place within a family or intimate relationship is domestic violence. It includes abuse of spouses, girlfriends and boyfriends, children, and elderly people. Domestic violence cuts across all socioeconomic, ethnic, racial, religious, and age groups.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Domestic Violence Services provide emergency assistance to Native victims needing transportation, food, clothing and other concrete client needs. We also will help with rent, security deposits, and emergency shelter.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Domestic Violence Services provide emergency assistance to victims needing transportation, food, clothing and other concrete client needs. We also will help with rent and security deposits, emergency shelter

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe Domestic Violence Program will have activities going on through the month of October to bring awareness to individuals of the ongoing problem of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Domestic Violence Department at (405)275-4030.

Kimberly Stephens, Victim Advocate
Rick Short, Domestic Violence Coordinator
Tresha Spoon, Director

DUI ASSESSMENT & SCHOOLS

(State Approved)

**Monday – Friday
8:00 to 5:00**

**Call Glenna
PHONE: 275-3432**

**Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Building 19
Shawnee, OK 74801**



Behavioral Health's Intensive Outpatient Program

IOP is an outpatient drug and alcohol treatment program that is more intense than attending treatment merely once or twice a week. Interviews and assessments will be used to help determine the appropriate level of care. To schedule an appointment please call 878-4716.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Coin Ceremony Of

Wednesday, September 9, 2009
Thunderbird Casino
15700 E. Highway 9
Norman, OK
1900 hours

ATTENDANCE (44):

OFFICER ATTENDANCE (6):

Commander: Frank Tiger
Executive Officer: David J. Voyles
Operations Officer: Esteline Schulenberg
Chaplain: Don Schulenberg
First Sergeant: Lewis Snake
Administrative Officer: John Vanderburg

MEMBER ATTENDANCE (14):

Roy Charley
Gerold W. Vanderburg
John Sloat
Walter Johnson Sr.
Elroy R. Alford Sr.
Richard Birdtail
Mary Birdtail
Clyde Yates
David Little
Stella Little
Jim Sloat
Walter Larney
Shane Jett
Kay Snake

NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS (24):

Governor George Blanchard
Sue Blanchard
Lt. Governor Dan Little Axe
Treasurer Anita Chisholm
Representative Alecia Onzawah
Jennifer Sloan
Raymond A. Tiger
Marjorie Kaniatobe
Guy E. Kaniatobe
Anna Jett
Ester Jett

Allie Stone – Tribal Media Department
Adrian Blanco – Tribal Media Department
Lisa Frazier – Thunderbird Casino
Rick Frazier – Thunderbird Casino
David Deer
John Soap Jr.
J.J. Soap
Darrell Larney
Nathan Harjo
Ashley Taylor
Eddie Mann
Danielle Voyles
Devin Voyles



Forty-three were in attendance for the first issuing of the Tribal Veterans Association coins. Seventeen Veterans Association members were honored with coins, which are individually numbered and exclusive to Veteran members of the Association.

The ceremony began with a greeting from Association Commander Frank Tiger. The White Bison Drum Group, led by Nathan Harjo, then played a Prayer song followed by a Memorial Song as members of the Tribal Color Guard, Walter Larney and David Little Jr., posted the colors.

The invocation was given by Tribal Governor George Blanchard and attendees were then treated to a meal, compliments of the Voyles Family. As members and guests dined on barbeque, Veteran Executive Officer David Voyles thanked each of the Veterans, Tribal Executive Committee Members, as well as his family, for their attendance and the support. Officer Voyles then introduced Eddie Mann, of Midwest Trophy, who was seated in the crowd. Mann and Voyles are the two responsible for the coins distinct design.

Administrations Officer John Vanderburg read over a few of the Association's accomplishments.

The Drum Group played as each Veteran's name and service were called. The coins were then presented to each of the Veterans by Commander Tiger and Executive Officer Voyles.

A benediction was given by Former Veterans Association Commander John Sloat to bring the evening to a close.



**ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA
REALTY DEPARTMENT**



**FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2009
ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL COMPLEX
Building 1-Realty Office
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

In a joint venture Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) and the Realty Department will conduct a free will clinic at the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Complex, Bldg 1, Realty Office. OILS will be available on-site to assist with questions and the preparations of a Last Will and Testament for Tribal members **ONLY**.

Appointments will be in 45 minute increments, sign in 15 minutes before scheduled time with the following items;

1. **A drivers' license or state ID**
2. **A tribal ID card with enrollment number**
3. **Ownership information or quarterly statement from OST**
4. **Legal descriptions for each of your real property holdings**
5. **If you wish to specifically bequest personal property, please bring a good description of that personal property. (Jewelry, furniture, etc.)**
6. **Bring your existing will, if you have one or wish to revise your existing will**
7. **Date of birth for your children or devisees**

Please call Jamie Gipp at 275-4030, ext 125 to schedule your appointment



Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority

1117 N. Kimberly, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74804
Phone: (405) 273-1050

Native American Programs Available:

- ❖ Lease with Option to Purchase
- ❖ Rental
- ❖ Over-Income Down Payment Assistance and Maintenance Assistance for Enrolled AST Members
- ❖ Maintenance Assistance
- ❖ Down Payment Assistance





AST Brownfields Job Training Program FREE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING CLASSES START SOON

CALL FOR DATES

We provide free DOL accredited training for
Asbestos and certifications in HAZWOPER, Confined
Space and many other areas.

Companies are calling us and asking do we have any
students who need a job and we have very few names to
give them because 91% of our graduates are
already working.

Average pay is \$13 an hour.

Call us today and enroll. Its all free,
your only commitment is to show and learn!!!

Classes will be held in different locations
throughout the year.

Call OEP Today at 405-273-9966

Applications can be picked up at OEP Offices on the cor-
ner of Benson Park Road and Highway 177 on the North
Side of Tecumseh – the “Old Lillard Pipe Supply”.

We can also fax or email them to you.

Program is Native American Preference but Open to All



CURRENT JOB POSTINGS AS OF 09/15/2009

COURT/LEGAL/POLICE

-Supreme Court Tribal Judge

HEALTH

-Patient Registration Clerk-Little Axe Clinic
-Dentist/Dental Director
-Case Manager, RN-Little Axe Clinic
-Licensed Practical Nurse-Shawnee Clinic
-Physicians Assistant
-Dental Assistant
-SDPI Community Directed Grant Coordinator

FAMILY SERVICE

-Tribal Youth Coordinator

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

-Child Protection/Foster Care Worker

FINANCE

-Assistant Controller

MIS

-Programmer

BUILDING BLOCKS

-Teacher
-Food Service Prep.
-Master Teacher
-Assistant Teacher
-Floater
-Food Prep. Specialist
-Program Assistant

Job descriptions will be available online:

<http://www.astribes.com/Employment.html>

If you have any questions about the job positions
and their job descriptions you can also contact
Natalie in the Human Resources Department at
the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at:
(405)275-4030 ext. 170



DOUBLE YOUR THUNDER

Match Slot Play for **EVERYONE**

Friday • 9am-7pm
Saturday • 9am-3pm
Sunday • 9am-3pm



NEW HOURS
FOR WEEKEND
MATCH PLAY!

SENIORS DAY
MONDAY
9AM-3PM

LADIES NIGHT
TUESDAY
NOON-9PM

MEN'S NIGHT
WEDNESDAY
NOON-9PM

SENIORS DAY
THURSDAY
9AM-3PM

DOUBLE YOUR THUNDER

Absentee Shawnee Tribal Promotion Day
Last Friday of the month.

Show Absentee Shawnee C.D.I.B. Card
and get \$10 for \$20 from 9am-7pm.

Half price buffets on Monday nights, must show AST C.D.I.B. Card



2% milk served daily

October 2009



menu subject to change

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

"SALAD BAR ON TUESDAYS"

Not going to be home
call us at 275-4030 ext
169 or notify your driver

4	5 Kraut & Weinees Baked Beans Bun Pudding	6 Stew Chez Sticks Crackers Cake	7 Salisbury Steak Mashed Pot./ Gravy Corn Cobblet Bread/Peaches	1 Cold Cut Sandwich Mac. Salad Cherry Crisp	2 Eggs Bacon	3
11	12 Manwich Steak Fries Carrot Sticks Apricots	13 Fish Coleslaw Hushpuppies Coconut Pie	14 Hot Ham n Chez Veggie Soup Pears	8 Hamburger Tom & Lett. Pork n Beans Jell-O	9 Cereal Biscuits Gravy	10
18	19 Taco Casserole Corn Fruit Cocktail	20 Chicken n Rice Soup Peas Crackers Pudding	21 Lasagna Salad Greenbeans Garlic Bread Cobbler	15 Corn Soup Frybread Broc. N Chez Pumpkin Pie	16 Eggs Sausage Link Hashbrown	17
25	26 Pork Chops Sweet Pot. Peas Roll Applesauce	27 Chicken Pot Pie Spinach Peach Crisp	28 Chef Salad w/ Chicken Strips Crackers Mandrarin Oranges	22 Pinto Beans w/ham Cornbread Carrots Pineapple Cake	23 Biscuits Gravy	24
				29 Roast Red Pot. Carrots Roll Cake	30 Oatmeal Blueberry Muffins	31 Happy Halloween



October 2009

Secretary Michelle Lopez and I will be attending the Senior Olympics in Tulsa, October 1 – 10.

Title VI will be having Salad Bar served on Tuesdays at the meal sites.

October 22 will we be having Bingo and we be having a speaker from Community Action Agency. The Bingo will be at the Title VI Building in Shawnee.

Happy Halloween and we will be handing out candy on the 30th at Title VI so bring the grandkids.

If you have any questions you can contact me at 275-4030 ext.169

Yvette Moore
Title VI Coordinator

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering

• Tribal Housing Improvements Application

The Tribal Housing Improvement Program's goal is providing sanitary, safe, and decent housing for its members by utilizing the following criteria to select the most "in need" tribal members with homes that are in disrepair but are still suitable for rehabilitation. All applicants must meet the eligibility requirements and criteria which is approved by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

THIP list all applicants by a priority list:

- a. Handicapped/Disabled and Elderly
- b. Income
- c. Family Size/Overcrowded Living Conditions
- d. Condition of Home

Other Programs available:

• Sanitation Facilities Assistance Program

Applications need to be completed and all necessary documents attached before the application will be processed.

Applications are available online on the website: www.atribe.com.

Submit completed application to:

Office of Environmental Health & Engineering
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, Ok 74801

Absentee Shawnee Tribe Complex
Office of Environmental Health & Engineering, Building 13
If you have any questions, you can reach us by phone at (405) 275-4030

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU

PHARMACY NEWS

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBAL PHARMACY SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Pharmacy (Shawnee Location) can fill prescriptions for enrolled tribal citizens only.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribal Clinic Pharmacy in Little Axe can fill prescriptions for tribal citizens written by Physicians not located at a Tribal Clinic under the following circumstances:

1. The prescription is for an Absentee Shawnee Tribal citizen who has an established chart at the Little Axe Clinic.
2. The prescription is on the formulary of approved medications and stocked in the pharmacy.

The following are a few tips to help us deliver pharmacy services to you more efficiently;

- ✓ Present insurance cards each time you pick up or drop off a prescription.
- ✓ Keep us informed of all changes in address, phone number and other contact information.
- ✓ Let the Pharmacy staff know if the prescription is going to be picked up or needs to be delivered.
- ✓ If you have any questions concerning your prescription please feel free to call and talk to our Pharmacist. They are here to assist you with your pharmaceutical needs.



Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
Little Axe Clinic • Little Axe Dental Clinic
15702 E. Hwy 9
Norman, Oklahoma 73026

Phone: (405) 447-0300 Fax: (405) 447-2250

Clinic Operating Hours

Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekends/Federal Holidays Closed

* Clinic and Pharmacy will be closed the 3rd Wednesday of each month
from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SERVICES COMING SOON...



LI-SI-WI-NWI
Graphics & Printing

Some services that will be
offered include:

business cards
invitations
announcements
logo designs
graphics
brochures
copies

OPENING TO THE PUBLIC THIS FALL



ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE
OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA
2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR.
SHAWNEE, OK 74801

PRSRT
STANDARD MAIL
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 166
Shawnee, OK 74801

2009 TRIBAL PHONE NUMBERS

Tribal Complex	(405) 275-4030
or	1-800 256-3341
OEP	(405) 273-9966
Building Blocks	(405) 878-0633
Health Programs	(405) 878-4702
or	1-877-878-4702
Little Axe Clinic	(405) 447-0300
Shawnee Clinic	(405) 878-5850
Shawnee Pharmacy	(405) 878-5859
LA Resource Center	(405) 364-7298
or	(405) 364-7569
LA Cultural Center	(405) 447-3372
AST Police	(405) 275-3200
or	(405) 275-3432
AS Housing Authority	(405) 273-1050
Thunderbird Casino	(405) 360-9270
Or	1-800-259-LUCK
AST Media Dept	(405) 598-1279
AST Media Dept	Fax (405) 598-1294